

1 August 1949

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[REDACTED]

Dear Betty:

It was very fine to get news of you again after such a long time of not knowing of your whereabouts, and I am delighted to know that you are happy and things are going well.

If and when your husband finishes his correspondence course and he desires to apply for a position with the Central Intelligence Agency, have him write the organization and request that application forms be forwarded to him. That is the first step to be taken by anyone seeking to join CIA. I can't promise a job, but you may be sure that his application will receive every consideration.

Again with best wishes, believe me,

Sincerely,

Signed & dispatched 8/1/49

R. H. Hillenkoetter
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

D: RHH/gc
Distribution

Addressee - orig.

DCI - lcc w/basic ltr, 7/26/49, from [REDACTED]

Personnel - lcc (*then Ence*)

Central Records - lcc

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Memo for Record: Refers to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] now taking correspondence
course with ONI; [REDACTED] letter was addressed
to Director at the Office of Naval Intelligence.

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26 July 1949

Rear Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, USN
Office of Naval Intelligence
Washington, D. C.

Dear Hilly,

It has been years since you have even heard of me but I have watched your continual rise with interest, knowing that for once the Navy recognized an intelligent man and gave him the billets he deserved.

Six years after I divorced [] I married a man who had just been discharged as a Marine enlisted man. In fact, I had waited for him for four years to finish his enlistment, foolishly believing at that time that [] and my child would look down on a step-father who was an enlisted man. My husband was re-called to active duty in the fall [] and has remained in the Marine Corps ever since. He is now []

Before going any farther with this let me assure you that I'm not asking you for any favors nor do I have the slightest expectation of promotion for him. I know that because of his lack of formal education (he did not even finish High School) and because of his age (41, I think) he can go no farther. It is simply that I am continually amazed at his fund of information, his keen intelligence and his interest and devotion to his duty and believe he could be a profitable asset to you.

For the past year he has been [] During that time he has done creditable work as a check with JAG office will tell you. Where can you find [] with no formal education handling 60 General Court Martial cases without a word of criticism from JAG office? His Legal Assistance work here is tremendous and he has been a veritable Solomon in many cases.

The whole purpose of this letter is to ask you to observe him and his work. You need men with his kind of mind. He has just started the correspondence course in Naval Intelligence. As far as I know he hasn't yet submitted any lessons.

Check with Colonel Victory, Colonel Lester Hamel, Colonel Nickerson, Major General Noble, Major Armitage, Major John King - they are some of the more intelligent Marine Officers whose opinions should carry weight.

Perhaps I need not tell you that my husband has no idea I am writing this to you, and I shall not tell him about it, nor do I expect an answer.

I know you want the best material you can get in your department, and believe he will contribute to your aims and objectives. I do not want to live in Washington and am not a bit sure I would like my husband to be an Intelligence Officer, but feel he would best serve the interests of the Service in a place where a keen and versatile mind is a necessity.

Best wishes to you.

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Sincerely yours